

HARBOR COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2021

A special meeting of the Manistee Harbor Commission was called to order by the Chair on Tuesday, February 5, 2021 at 9:02 a.m. via Zoom.

Roll Call	Present	Excused Absence	Unexcused Absence
Commissioner Fritz Boehm		x	
Commissioner Ty Cook	x		
Commissioner Jeff Mikula	x		
Commissioner Tom Swedenborg	x		
Commissioner Alex Zaccanelli		x	
Commissioner Tracey Lindeman		x	
Commissioner George Becker	x		
City Manager Thad Taylor	x		

OTHERS PRESENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jeff Mikula, second by Ty Cook to approve the agenda as presented.
With voice vote this motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Jeff Mikula second by Ty Cook, to approve the minutes for the January 19, 2021 meeting as presented.
With Roll Call this motion passed 4 to 0.

Yes: Ty Cook, Jeff Mikula, Tom Swedenborg, George Becker

No: None

OLD BUSINESS

- Review Strategic Plan
 - Priorities and Budget Discussion
 - Discussed the kayak and canoe launch sites listed in the Strategic Plan. Jeff Mikula gave the background of plans for the Ninth Street boat launch as the kayak and canoe launch site. Grant money had to be returned as the City did not have control of the property at that time (Consumers and Morton Salt were the owners). The City has now purchased the parcel that had been owned by Morton Salt. Adding this element

to the boat launch could be revisited in the future, utilizing grant funds or adding to the City's capital improvement projects.

Motion by Tom Swedenborg to remove the launch site item from the Strategic Plan.

Jeff Mikula stated that it was an opportunity that should remain in the plan even if it is currently not a priority.

Tom Swedenborg withdrew the motion.

- Discussed the impact of the Fricano's project on the Marina and the positive contribution to the waterway into the City. It is important to utilize the Marina to promote all restaurants and entertainment on River Street. Marketing and promoting all the businesses to increase the revenue for the Marina continues to be a focus. Would like to see the Harbor Commission reinstate their Marketing/Promotion subcommittee for this purpose.
- Discussed short term boat dockage at Marina and other River Street businesses and educating Marina Staff to help direct visitors.

Consensus: Budget should be focused on rebuilding docks, completion of patio area at Marina, and marketing/promotion of Marina.

OTHER COMMENTS

- Question about who maintains the shuffleboard surfaces and equipment at the Marina. Jeff Mikula thought it was the Parks Department but will investigate further.
- The Marina should have duffle bags with disc golf equipment available to their visitors with the new course going in at the First Street Beach area.
- Jeff Mikula updated the rest of the commissioners on the shoreline revetment project. Assured commission the boat launch area will remain open and accessible to the public though it would be impacted by the work being done on this project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Maralee Cook – The City has done a fantastic job dealing with the catastrophes that have impacted the City over this last year.

Would like to see the Marina take advantage of the Visitors Bureau and its Facebook and Instagram followers by collaborating with them. Would like to see the packets the Marina provides their transient boaters to include list or map of downtown businesses and promote other waterway amenities. Really exciting time with all the new options downtown.

Would like to see the City request the Manistee Area Chamber of Commerce to create a list or map of the downtown businesses. February is a great time to start collaborating and planning.

If the Ninth Street boat launch is to receive any upgrades, is there sufficient security and lighting for users?

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION to adjourn by Tom Swedenborg, second by Jeff Mikula at 9:44 a.m.

Kelly McColl
Recording Secretary